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SIXTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

PAINTING, SCULPTURE, AND  
ARCHITECTURE

INSTITUTED 1826

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1838

EDINBURGH : THOMAS AND ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE

PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN, AND TO THE UNIVERSITY

1887



Council and Office-Bearers  
OF THE  
ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY  
OF  
Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 9TH NOVEMBER 1887.

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Council.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE.

CLARK STANTON, Esq.		D. W. STEVENSON, Esq.
<sup>1</sup> J. M. BARCLAY, Esq.		WALLER H. PATON, Esq.
GOURLAY STEELL, Esq.		JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq.

GEORGE HAY, Esq., SECRETARY AND TRUSTEE.

<sup>2</sup> J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., TREASURER AND TRUSTEE.

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WILLIAM M'TAGGART, Esq., TRUSTEE.

R. HERDMAN, Esq.,		
W. E. LOCKHART, Esq.,	}	AUDITORS.

<sup>4</sup> J. HUTCHISON, Esq., LIBRARIAN.

CLARK STANTON, Esq.,		
J. HUTCHISON, Esq.,	}	CURATORS OF LIBRARY.

<sup>3</sup> J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., W. E. LOCKHART, Esq., OTTO T. LEYDE, Esq., W. D. M'KAY, Esq.,	}	VISITORS OF THE LIFE ACADEMY.
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<sup>1</sup> }  
<sup>2</sup> } Died 1st December 1886 { Mr. BEATTIE-BROWN, succeeded in terms of the Laws.  
<sup>3</sup> } { Mr. HUTCHISON, succeeded by election.  
           { Mr. GIBB, succeeded by election.  
<sup>4</sup> Elected Treasurer, 8th December 1886; Mr. LEYDE succeeded to Librarianship by election.





## REPORT.

THE COUNCIL of the ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY beg to submit their Annual Report for the year 1887, to the General Assembly of Academicians, as follows :—

I. The Sixty-first Exhibition was opened on Saturday the 19th of February, and was closed on Saturday the 21st of May. It contained 889 Paintings in Oil and Water-Colour, and 38 works in Sculpture. There were fewer Paintings exhibited than in the Exhibitions of recent years, in consequence of a considerable reduction having been made in the number of pictures usually hung above the line, and also from an effort to raise the standard of the quality of the Exhibition.

II. The Annual Dinner took place in the Galleries, as usual, on the eve of the public opening of the Exhibition, when the President and Council had the pleasure of receiving a large and distinguished company.

III. At the Annual General Meeting, held on 10th November 1886, Charles Martin Hardie, Arthur Melville, and James Hamilton were elected to the rank of Associate of the Academy, to fill the vacancies caused by the death of John Glass, and the election of J. L. Wingate and D. W. Stevenson to the degree of Academician.

IV. The following is the Report of the Librarian and the Curators of the Library :—

“The books, prints, and drawings in the Library are in good condition, and catalogued to this date.

“The increase in the attendance noted in last year’s Report has considerably advanced during the Session of 1886-87.

“Full advantage has been taken by the Students of the privilege they have of consulting the books.

“The following Books and Etchings have been added to the Library :—

“Maitland of Lethington and the Scotland of Mary Stuart. A History, by John Skelton, Advocate ; Doctor of Laws of the University of Edinburgh ; Author of the ‘Essays of Shirley.’ Edinburgh, 1887. Vol. I. 8vo.

*Presented by* THE AUTHOR.

“A Treasury of English Sonnets, edited from the original sources with Notes and Illustrations, by David M. Main. Manchester, 1880. 4to.

*Presented by* JOHN SMART, R.S.A.

“Edinburgh Architectural Association Sketch-Book, 1883-1886. Vol. I. New Series. Folio.

*Presented by* THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.

“Illustrations to the King’s Quair of King James I. of Scotland. Painted on the staircase of Penkill Castle, Ayrshire, by William Bell Scott, June 1865 to August 1868. Etched by him, 1885. Edinburgh, 1887. 4to.

*Presented by* WILLIAM BELL SCOTT, Esq.

“Peter Walker Nicholson and his Works. Issued by a Committee of the Artist’s friends for private circulation. Edinburgh, 1886. 4to.

*Presented by* JOHN HUTCHISON, R.S.A.

“The Progress of a Century, or the Age of Iron and Steam. A few facts collected by Edwin Lawrence. London, 1886. 8vo.

*Presented by* THE AUTHOR.

“Ye Gilty Goddess ; a Doleful Ditty, composed by one of the Committee of the Edinburgh International Exhibition. Edinburgh, 1886. Folio.

*Presented by* W. E. LOCKHART, R.S.A.

"The River Clyde. Twelve Drawings by George Reid, R.S.A. Reproduced in Fac-simile by Amand-Durand, with an Introduction by the Rev. Walter Chalmers Smith, D.D., LL.D. Edinburgh, 1886. Folio.

*Presented by THE ROYAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE FINE ARTS IN SCOTLAND.*

"The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland from the Twelfth to the Eighteenth Century. By David MacGibbon and Thomas Ross, Architects. Edinburgh, 1887. 2 Vols. 8vo.

"Randolph Caldecott ; a Personal Memoir of his Early Art Career, by Henry Blackburn. With one hundred and seventy-two Illustrations. London, 1886. 8vo.

"Imagination in Landscape Painting. By Philip Gilbert Hamerton, Author of 'Etching and Etchers,' etc. With many Illustrations. London, 1887. Folio.

"Extracts from the Records of the Royal Burgh of Stirling, A.D. 1519-1666. With Appendix, A.D. 1295-1666. Glasgow 1887. 4to.

"The Round Table Series—Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Poet and Painter. Edinburgh, 1886. 8vo.

"Cecil Lawson. A Memoir, by Edmund W. Gosse. With Illustrations by Hubert Herkomer, A.R.A., J. A. M<sup>c</sup>N. Whistler, and Cecil Lawson. London, 1883. Folio.

"Hortus Inclusus. Messages from the Wood to the Garden, sent in happy days to the Sister Ladies of the Thwaite, Coniston, by their thankful friend, John Ruskin, LL.D. Orpington, Kent, 1887.

"Examples of the Architecture of Venice. Ruskin. Orpington, Kent. Folio. N.D.

"Index to Fors Clavigera. Letters to the Workmen and Labourers of Great Britain. By John Ruskin, LL.D., Honorary Student of Christ Church, and Honorary Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Vols. I. to VIII. 1871-7, 1878-80-83-84. Orpington, Kent, 1887. 8vo.

"On the Old Road. A Collection of Miscellaneous Essays, Pamphlets, etc. etc. Published 1834-1885. By John Ruskin, LL.D., D.C.L. 2 Vols. in 3. Orpington, Kent, 1885.

"An Artist's Proof Etching, by C. O. Murray, after the picture  
'The Highland Ford,' by John Smart, R.S.A.

*Presented by THE PAINTER.*

(Signed) OTTO LEYDE, *Librarian.*  
JOHN HUTCHISON, *Curator.*  
CLARK STANTON, *Curator."*

V. The Visitors of the Life School report as follows:—

"The Visitors of the Life School have much pleasure in reporting to the President and Council of the Royal Scottish Academy the continued prosperity of the Life School.

"The Session of 1886-87 commenced on 1st November 1886 and ended on 24th June 1887, having 121 morning and 122 evening meetings. The aggregate morning attendance was 2120, and 2056 was the aggregate evening attendance.

"It may be interesting to compare the above returns with those of 1876-77. The Session of 1876-77 ran for one hundred nights, with an aggregate attendance of 1513. The morning class opened on 1st May and closed 6th July, being thirty mornings, with an aggregate attendance of 317. The average daily attendance is thus shown to be nearly 35 as against 26 ten years ago.

"We think these figures show conclusively that the students fully appreciate the increased liberality of the Royal Scottish Academy in affording them better opportunities for prosecuting their studies.

"The Visitors would add that the conduct of the students has been most excellent.

"(Signed) W. E. LOCKHART, *Visitor.*  
OTTO LEYDE, *Visitor.*  
ROBERT GIBB, *Visitor.*  
W. D. M'KAY, *Visitor."*

The Council observe, with pleasure, the very marked improvement in the studies in colour during the past Session, although (especially in the Drawings) in regard to the purity of outline there is still much to be desired. The Council are also pleased with the evidence of great industry of the Students. And further, the Council may say that

they can congratulate the Academy on the healthy and efficient condition of the School generally, and that they are glad to find that the Students fully appreciate the benefits they derive from it.

After a careful examination of the studies, etc., the Council awarded the Prizes as follows:—

The Chalmers Bursary,	} Equal,	{ JOHN BRIGGS, W. MARSHALL BROWN.
For the Best Drawing from the Life,		DAVID NOBLE.
For the Second Best, . . . .		ALEXANDER HAY.
The Keith Prize, for the Best Work of a Student in this year's Exhibition,	} Equal,	{ DUDDINGSTON HERDMAN. WILLIAM FRAZER.
Maclaine-Watters Medal and Extra Prize,		W. MILNE.
The Stuart Prize, . . . .		G. DENHOLM ARMOUR.

VI. The following additions have been made to the Academy's Collection of Works of Art, etc., during the past year:—

1. Portrait (Head size) of William Forrest, *H.R.S.A.*, Engraver.

*Painted and presented by* NORMAN MACBETH, *R.S.A.*

2. "Bo-Peep," by Thomas Duncan, *R.S.A.*, *A.R.A.*

*Purchased by* THE ACADEMY.

3. Cabinet picture, "Cottage Children," by Andrew Somerville, *S.A.*, an early Member of the Academy.

4. Cabinet picture, "Herodias receiving the head of John the Baptist," by John Runciman.

The above two works presented by the late WILLIAM NELSON, Esq.<sup>1</sup>

5. Portrait of Robert Edmonstone, Honorary Member of The Scottish Academy, 1829. Painted by himself.

*Presented by* JAMES WATSON, Esq.

6. Volume I. (New Series) of the Edinburgh Architectural Association Sketch-Book.

*Presented by* THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Nelson was a well-known benefactor to the city, and at the time of his death was engaged upon several important restorations, such as the Ancient Hall of the Scottish Parliament, and others.

7. A Volume, The River Clyde, Twelve Drawings, by George Reid, R.S.A. Reproduced in fac-simile by Amand-Durand, with an Introduction by the Rev. Walter Chalmers Smith, D.D., LL.D.

*Presented by* THE ROYAL ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTION OF FINE ARTS  
IN SCOTLAND.

8. "Progress of a Century," by Edwin Lawrence, Esq.

*Presented by* THE AUTHOR.

9. Volume I. of "Maitland of Lethington and the Scotland of Mary Stuart : " a History, by John Skelton, C.B., LL.D., Advocate.

*Presented by* THE AUTHOR.

10. "A Treasury of English Sonnets," edited by David M. Main, Esq.

*Presented by* JOHN SMART, R.S.A.

11. "Ye Gilty Goddess," a Doleful Ditty composed by one of the Committee. (Edinburgh International Exhibition.)

*Presented by* W. E. LOCKHART, R.S.A.

12. A Volume, Illustrations to the King's Quair of King James I. of Scotland. Painted and Etched by William Bell Scott, Esq.

*Presented by* THE ARTIST.

13. Peter Walker Nicholson and his Works. Issued by a Committee of the Artist's friends for private circulation. Edinburgh, 1886. 4to.

*Presented by* JOHN HUTCHISON, R.S.A.

14. "An Artist's Proof Etching," by C. O. Murray, after the picture "The Highland Ford," by John Smart, R.S.A.

*Presented by* THE PAINTER.

The thanks of the Council were duly transmitted to the respective donors.

VII. The Academy having been requested by the Charity Commission, Whitehall, London, to appoint a Member to act as a "Representative Trustee of the Funds of the British Institution for promoting Fine Arts," the Council have to



report that Norman Macbeth, R.S.A., now residing at London, was duly appointed to the office at a Council Meeting held on 13th December 1886, and that he accepted the appointment.

VIII. It is the painful duty of the Council to report the loss sustained by the Academy in the death of one of their oldest and most esteemed Members, J. M. Barclay, who for two years prior to his death, ably filled the office of Treasurer. For twelve years he was a Visitor of the Life School, and all through that period devoted much of his time and attention to advance its welfare and prosperity. He was also a Trustee of the Academy, being appointed to that responsible office on the demise of his friend and colleague, Kenneth M'Leay, whose name was also long associated with the School. J. M. Barclay was elected an Associate in 1863, and attained the full rank of Academician in 1871. He died on 1st December 1886, aged 75 years.

With the concurrence of the representatives of the deceased, the President, Council, and a large number of Members attended the funeral, and paid their last tribute of respect to their late Treasurer.

At a Meeting of Council held on 13th December, the following Minute was unanimously adopted :—

“But a few weeks since, when laying before the Academy their Annual Report, the Council were able to congratulate the Members that their ranks had not been invaded by death during the past year ; but scarcely had that Report been issued when one of the most valued members and Office-bearers was removed from amongst them. J. M. Barclay, Treasurer, and holder of other offices in the Academy, died on 1st December, and the Council desire to place on record their very vivid regret at the loss of one so generally esteemed, and who has left behind him no memories which are not pleasant, and no thoughts which are not kindly. His presence at the Council Board, more especially, will be missed not only for the

services he rendered, but for the genial influence he shed over many an hour of anxious discussion.

“The Secretary was instructed to transmit a copy of this Minute to his widow, and, at the same time, to convey to her and the other members of the family the expression of the Council’s deep sympathy with them in their bereavement.”

J. M. Barclay was born at Perth in 1811. He received his education in the Academy of that city, having for a fellow-student Thomas Duncan, who became his intimate and lifelong friend. Barclay, who had early shown a decided taste for drawing, was placed by his father in the office of a Civil Engineer, in the hope no doubt that full scope would be there afforded him for turning his artistic ability to practical account. After some time spent in this employment it was abandoned to gratify an all-absorbing desire to be able to paint portraits, which in private he had been quietly practising, and for which he displayed considerable aptitude and ability. Shortly thereafter he came to Edinburgh, and, under Sir William Allan, studied assiduously in the Board of Trustees’ School, and painting occasional portraits. Having acquired sufficient training and knowledge of his Art to enable him to set up as a professional Portrait Painter, he returned to his native city and rapidly got into notice and practice, meeting with great success for a number of years, nearly all the notables of the county having sat to him. Ultimately he returned to Edinburgh, where he also received numerous commissions, painting many of the marked men of the day. Latterly, he produced several historical subjects, taken from Scottish history, such as the “Raid of Ruthven,” and others. His kindly disposition secured for him many friends, and by them many happy memories of J. M. Barclay will long be cherished.

IX. With deep regret the Council have to report the death of John Wright Oakes, A.R.A., one of the most

distinguished Honorary Members of the Academy, and one whose name for many years has occupied a foremost place amongst the landscape painters of the English School.

The Council having learned of the sad event through Thomas Oldham Barlow, Esq., R.A., on behalf of Miss Oakes, recorded on their minutes of 19th July their expression of deep regret at the loss the Academy had sustained, and instructed the Secretary to convey the same in a letter to Mr. Barlow, along with their heartfelt sympathy with Miss Oakes in her affliction.

J. W. Oakes was a native of Middlewich, Cheshire, and was educated at Liverpool, where he also received some Art tuition. He early manifested a predilection for landscape painting, which he studied with great zeal, mainly taking for his subjects scenery in Wales and the Lake District, occasionally finding for his brush, however, ample material in Scotland and elsewhere. He first exhibited at the Liverpool Academy, of which he became a member, and afterwards Honorary Secretary, holding that office with much acceptance for several years. His first picture which appeared in London was in the British Institution in 1847, and he exhibited at the Royal Academy in the year following. In 1849 with three pictures, he commenced nigh twenty consecutive years' connection as an exhibitor with the Royal Scottish Academy, during which period he contributed altogether forty-seven works to their Annual Exhibitions. The impression made by his ability, and the high estimation in which his Art was held by the Academy, led to his election in 1883 to the Honorary Membership. Since that time he has been annually represented on the walls.

J. W. Oakes was elected an Associate of the Royal

Academy in 1876. He died at London on the 8th of July 1887, having reached his sixty-seventh year.

X. At a Special Meeting of the Academy held on 8th December 1886, convened in accordance with the Laws to fill the vacancy in the Treasurership caused by the death of J. M. Barclay, John Hutchison, R.S.A., was elected to the Office.

XI. At a meeting of the Council held on 13th December 1886, the vacant seat at the Council caused by the death of Mr. Barclay was, in accordance with the Laws, filled by W. Beattie-Brown, R.S.A., he having been appointed in terms of the Charter, Sect. 11, Art. 13.

XII. In pursuance of the resolution of the General Meeting that the Academy should memorialise Parliament for a share to the National Gallery of the Works of Art annually, or from time to time, presented to the Nation by Parliament, as is readily given to the National Galleries of England and Ireland, the Council have to report that a Memorial was transmitted to the House of Commons in March last, through Mr. Buchanan, M.P., and it is hoped that the National Gallery of Scotland may be soon put on the same footing in this respect as the other Galleries of the United Kingdom.<sup>1</sup>

XIII. The Academy, in unison with the general feeling of joy which prevailed throughout The Queen's dominions on the completion of the 50th year of Her reign, resolved, at a General Meeting held on 23d May, to prepare and forward a loyal and dutiful Address<sup>2</sup> to Her Majesty on the auspicious

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<sup>1</sup> A copy of the Memorial will be found in the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> A copy of the Address will be found in the Appendix.

occasion, which was accordingly done by the Council ; and they had the gratification of receiving a very gracious reply.

XIV. The recommendation of the General Meeting of 19th April, that another Water-colour Exhibition be held this year, was cordially adopted by the Council, and a collection of Drawings, including a number by deceased Artists, was opened to the public on Wednesday, 13th of July, and was closed on Saturday, 15th of October. For the cordial response given to the Council's request for the loan of Works by deceased Artists, the best thanks of the Academy were duly transmitted to the respective Proprietors.

(Signed)      W. FETTES DOUGLAS,  
*President.*

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY,  
9th November 1887.

## A P P E N D I X.

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### MEMORIAL TO HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*Unto the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain  
and Ireland*

*The Memorial of the President and Council of the  
Royal Scottish Academy*

*Humbly Sheweth—*

That whereas attention has been directed to the state of the National Gallery of Scotland, and an increasing dissatisfaction has of late years been shown that Scotland has had no share of the Works of Art annually, or from time to time, presented to the Nation by the Imperial Government: Your Memorialists pray that such measures, as Her Majesty's Government see fit, may be taken, by assigning a certain proportion of such Works of Art purchased for the Nation, to the National Gallery of Scotland, and thus remedy the evil complained of.

While fully alive to the importance of a great central collection in London, your Memorialists believe that such a collection is too remote to have any but the most indirect influence on the Art culture of Scotland, or the training of Scottish Artists; also, that it would be for the best interests of British Art, to preserve whatever of vitality may come from the existence of a vigorous National sentiment, which in the past has supplied a large and distinctive element in British Art.

Your Memorialists, on whom the training of the Art Students of Scotland chiefly devolves—and on whom this duty has been laid by Royal Charter—would urge the disadvantages under which they labour, as compared with the schools of London and Dublin,



where the National collections are being constantly increased by Works purchased by the Government, and to a large extent consist of works which are National property, in a sense altogether different from those in the so-called National Gallery of Scotland, which is merely a collection of Works belonging to various local Institutions.

Your Memorialists might further urge that nowhere has more been done for the advancement of Art by local effort—they themselves contributing to the National collection Works to the value of between forty and fifty thousand pounds, and that the entire annual expenditure for the housing and custody of the pictures and other Works of Art is defrayed, not from the Imperial revenue, as in the case of England and Ireland, but from purely Scottish Funds.

Your Memorialists are encouraged to hope that their Petition will be favourably entertained, and will ever pray.

Signed by order of the Council.

(Signed) W. FETTES DOUGLAS, *President*,  
Royal Scottish Academy, and 6 Lynedoch  
Place, Edinburgh.

(Signed) GEORGE HAY, *Secretary*,  
Royal Scottish Academy, and 7 Ravelston  
Terrace, Edinburgh.

#### ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY.

*To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.*

*May it Please Your Majesty,—*

The President, Council, and Members of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture desire most humbly and respectfully to approach your Majesty with their expression of loyal congratulation on the completion of the fiftieth year of your august reign.

Since the accession of your Majesty to the throne, a lengthened period of all that is desirable in the government of a people has been by them enjoyed—a period indelibly marked as an epoch in the history of their country for the wisdom of its government,

advancement in Art and Science, development in a marvellous degree of all the elements of national greatness, and for the full enjoyment of civil and religious liberty. For this national success and progress, it is undoubted that to your own gracious character much is due ; and on this your Majesty's Jubilee, it becomes all classes of the people to testify, with profound gratitude, their loyalty to their beloved Queen. The Academy, while doing so in common with the general feeling throughout your Majesty's dominions, feel constrained with thankfulness to advert to your Majesty's gracious favour conferred on them nearly fifty years ago, in the Incorporation of their body by Royal Charter—an honour of which they are justly proud, and which they feel has done much to enhance the dignity and position of Art in their native land. The Academy also desire most respectfully to express their humble and grateful acknowledgments of the continued gracious interest of your Majesty in their welfare and prosperity.

It is the earnest prayer of the Academy that your Majesty's reign will yet be long and prosperous, and that a loyal, happy, and contented people will ever love and reverence their Queen.

Signed in name and by appointment of the President, Council, and Members of the Royal Scottish Academy.

WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, *President*.

GEORGE HAY, *Secretary*.

At the Annual Meeting of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, held in the Library of Academy on Wednesday, the 9th of November 1887, the Office-bearers were elected, and the Council declared for the ensuing year, as follows :—

### Council.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, PRESIDENT, AND TRUSTEE.

D. W. STEVENSON, Esq.

WALLER H. PATON, Esq.

JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq.

OTTO T. LEYDE, Esq.

W. F. VALLANCE, Esq.

ROBERT HERDMAN, Esq.

GEORGE HAY, Esq., SECRETARY AND TRUSTEE.

JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq., TREASURER AND TRUSTEE.

WILLIAM M'TAGGART, Esq., TRUSTEE.

ROBERT HERDMAN, Esq.,

ROBERT GIBB, Esq.,

} AUDITORS.

OTTO T. LEYDE, Esq., LIBRARIAN.

W. F. VALLANCE, Esq.,

D. W. STEVENSON, Esq.,

} CURATORS OF LIBRARY.

OTTO T. LEYDE, Esq.,

ROBERT GIBB, Esq.,

W. D. M'KAY, Esq.,

J. LAWTON WINGATE, Esq.,

} VISITORS OF THE LIFE ACADEMY.

CLARK STANTON, Esq., CURATOR OF LIFE SCHOOL.









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